

The special budget meeting for the Village of Brooklyn was called to order by President Walsten on Oct 23, 2014 at 6:38 P.M. with Trustees McNaughton, Klahn, Leavy, Hawkey present. Trustees McCallum and Frandy were absent. Others present were Clerk Strause, PW Director Langer, and Police Chief Barger, Heather Kirkpatrick, Britt Springer. The Pledge of Allegiance was cited by all.

The discussion continued regarding the need for a Village Administrator or if the need is for an economic development director. Walsten presented a sample job description for duties of an administrator. There could be a penalty assessed if the Village has not met the criteria for the CDBG grant which was to create jobs. The grant received was for \$261,000 for infrastructure cost. A proposal of 15 hours a week x \$20/\$30 per hr with no benefits would cost \$15,600/\$23,400. Because \$5,691.37 still needs to be cut from line items to balance the budget, it was felt the Village cannot afford an administrator. Trustee McNaughton stated he was not in favor of hiring an administrator and asked what a consultant would do to promote the Business Complex. Trustee Klahn stated he was not in favor of hiring an administrator and felt if the Village was showing a good faith effort to recruit business, the CDBG Commission would recognize that. Walsten will be working on recruitment until April when she is off the Board.

Klahn moved to pull out \$20,000 from the restitution fund to hire a company part-time to promote the Business Complex. Trustee Leavy asked what we would get for \$20,000 and requested to maybe wait two months and interview. Klahn withdrew his motion.

2015 Budget review continued. An amount of \$5691.37 needs to be cut to stay within levy limits. Village President's current annual salary of \$6,000 was again discussed. Consensus was to reduce by \$1500 as the new Village President will probably not have the time to deal with economic development and marketing of the Business Complex. The annual salary would be \$4500 beginning in April 2015. The amount budgeted for a Police Dept taser, \$1522, was removed from the Capital Projects Fund with any department surplus funds at year end to be used to purchase one taser. Police part-time wage was lowered by \$1522 to reinstate the Capital Projects equipment to purchase a taser in 2015. Police Dept uniform a/c was lowered by \$500 for a total of \$2,000 and \$500 was removed from cemetery tree removal to balance the grant money requested. Balance of funds to be removed from the Capital Project Fund for street outlay. A letter was read from Shirley Hardy, Police Dept secretary, requesting a wage adjustment because of the number of years employed by the Village and in light of the wage being paid to the temporary Court Clerk. Personnel committee will review this request. Klahn moved, second Leavy, carried to offer a proposed levy of \$782,619.00.

Proposal from Computer Know How, Brodhead, to be the administrator for all Village email and networks along with computer maintenance was presented. President Walsten reported that currently Chief Barger is the administrator of all email accounts through Charter. Walsten continued that a meeting she had with our attorney's computer guru stated it was not recommended that a department head be in this capacity. Trustee Hawkey rebutted that all emails are open to the public and a department head should not be a problem as administrator. Trustee Klahn moved, second McNaughton, carried to accept the CKH contract and purchase a block of 12 hours at \$90 per hr. Trustee Hawkey voted Nay.

Water and Sewer utility budgets were reviewed. Both have negative balances and rate increases may be warranted next year. After the audit, the water utility rate of return will be reviewed and discussed further if application for a rate increase is necessary. Klahn moved, second McNaughton, carried to offer the proposed sewer budget at -\$209,466.28 with a review of rates in 2015. McNaughton moved, second Klahn, carried to offer the proposed water budget at -\$58,087.83 with a review of rates in 2015.

Klahn moved, second Leavy, carried to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Carol A Strause, Clerk-Treas.